

## FOR MEDIA PLANNING PURPOSES

MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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April 20, 2016

### **ADVISORY: Montana PSC to hold hearing in Missoula regarding Mountain Water Co. rate investigation**

**HELENA, Mont. – April 20, 2016** – The Montana Public Service Commission will hold a public hearing in **Missoula, MT on May 3-4, 2016, beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, regarding the investigation into Mountain Water Co.'s rates following the unauthorized sale of the water system to Liberty Utilities. **The hearing will take place at the GuestHouse Inn, Suites & Conference Center, 3803 Brooks St.**

On January 29, 2016, the Commission voted to initiate a proceeding to inquire into whether Mountain Water Company's current water rates for its Missoula, Montana customers are just and reasonable following the transfer of ownership to Liberty Utilities.

The Commission's jurisdiction over this matter is provided at Title 69, Montana Code Annotated. State law vests the PSC with "full power of supervision, regulation, and control of public utilities." The PSC may at any time "upon its own motion, investigate any of the rates, tolls, charges, rules, practices, and services" of a utility. Rates must be "reasonable and just, and every unjust and unreasonable charge is prohibited and declared unlawful."

Members of the public are encouraged to attend the hearing as the Commission will provide an opportunity for public comment. The hearing will be live streamed on the PSC's website at: <http://www.psc.mt.gov/video.asp>

**WHAT:** Mountain Water Rate Investigation Hearing

**WHEN:** Tuesday, May 3 & Wednesday, May 4 (if needed) 9:00 a.m. each day

**WHERE:** GuestHouse Inn, Suites & Conference Center: 3803 Brooks St., Missoula, MT 59804

To view the notice of public hearing, visit: <http://1.usa.gov/1NlyZ5V>

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